

TALES TOLD AT THE CRIPPLES' CLUB.

BY JAMES GREENWOOD
(THE AMATEUR CASUAL.)

JASPER JUKES TRIES IT ON.
"The application that will occupy your attention this evening, gentlemen, appears to be one of an exceptionally peculiar kind. As I need not remark, I have not the slightest desire to pre-empt you against any one who may wish to place their case before us; at the same time, it is my duty as your president to warn you against possible imposture."

"It appears that the applicant, Jasper Jukes by name, has been a sailor, or, rather, a ship's steward, and he is recommended to us by a lady, who, though a kind-hearted creature, is so far from being a doctor, that she is a tale of distress, is apt to allow her compassion to get the better of her judgment."

"It is she who has written to me in this man's behalf. He is not, it seems, so badly crippled as some, indeed, he has lost but one leg, except for being subject to rheumatism, enjoys tolerably good health. But, as he has made known to her, so miraculous an adventure is connected with the loss of his limb, as to make it appear that the finger of Providence points to him as an especially favoured object of its saving mercy, and the good lady intimates that, on that account, we may, perhaps, when we have heard the wonderful narration from his own lips, feel disposed to assist him. You now know as much of the case as I know, and we will have Jasper Jukes in and hear what he has got to say for himself."

A brown-faced man was Jasper Jukes, thick set and past middle age. He was shabbily attired in nautical garb, with a reefed jacket and a round glazed hat, which he carried under his arm as he came stamping into the room. His hair, though scanty, was black still, and well oiled, and hung in tiny ringlets over his forehead and temples. With a show of most profound respect for the committee, he pulled at a forelock and made his best bow, though it would not have escaped a shrewd observer that all the time he was keenly "taking stock" of the gentlemen seated at the table, and weighing his chances as to the year he would come prepared to roll off meeting with a credulous reception.

"This gentleman," remarked the president of the Cripples' Club, addressing his colleagues, "is Jasper Jukes. He is crippled to the extent of having had his left leg amputated above the knee, and being on that account incapacitated for ordinary labour, he is now living by selling rough firewood in the streets. But he finds drawing a truck too much for his strength, and would like to have a pony, or even a donkey, and cart instead. He is recommended by our esteemed friend, Miss Susan Southwell, who has already given him occasional assistance. I now call on you, Jasper Jukes, to inform us on what special grounds you make the present application."

"As for the special grounds, your honours," replied Mr. Jukes, with becoming modesty, "there ain't none as far as I'm aware of, 'cept that if it hadn't been for a mistake, I should be here alive to tell my tale. I haven't come before you, gentlemen, to talk sorrowful about the loss of my precious limb. I should be a most ungrateful chap if I were the case, since to me the loss of my leg is due to the preservation of my entire carcass. If it hadn't been that I was shipped off above the knee while in the act of saving the life of a cabin boy who had fell overboard while we was voyaging in the Caribbean Sea, and his being pursued by a shark, I should have been eaten up by cannibals and found a dishonoured grave inside about a dozen of 'em."

"Which shows, gentlemen, the wonderful workings of the ways of Providence! Who could have supposed when that shark, which, made savage by my awkwardly rescuing that poor little boy out of his very jaws, turned on me and bit my leg off, that it was doing me a good turn, and yet such was the fact, for it saved me from a wussier death than if it had gobbled me up alive there and then."

"If you will kindly tell your story in a plain way and with as little elaboration as possible," the president remarked drily, "it will answer the main purpose and save your time as well as ours."

"Right you are, your honours," and Jasper Jukes once more pulled his forelock deferentially. "My plain story, then, is this. It was in the year 1860, and on the 10th of August, when, being on the time saved, I was doing me a good turn, and yet such was the fact, for it saved me from a wussier death than if it had gobbled me up alive there and then."

"I didn't do it hoping for a reward; I did it for no other reason, but never thought that I should be censured. But I was. Our captain was one of those strict kind of men that allowed nothing to excuse a breach of discipline. At it happened, at the moment when the cabin boy was blown overboard a fearful storm was raging, and the billows rolling mountains high, which naturally made it bad for the Ramchunder, every seaman being required at his post. After I had beaten off the shark I did my best to swim with one leg, holding the boy up the while, when a boat was lowered from the vessel, and we were both rescued. When we returned on board the whole crew were cheering, but the captain sternly commanded silence. 'Jasper Jukes,' he says to me, 'you are a brave fellow, but the discipline of my ship must be maintained at all risks, and for deserting your post without first applying for leave of absence, you are degraded to the grade of ordinary seaman.'

"That disgusted me with the naval service, though I was consoled by knowing that I was deeply sympathized with by the officers and crew, unknown to the captain, subscribed among themselves the price of a handsome cork leg, to be made to measure as soon as my stump was healed. I got my discharge when the Ramchunder returned to an

English port, and a short time after being paid for my duty, I took a situation as ship's steward on a passage ship, and served on board of her in that capacity for nine years without any particular adventure happening to me. But I met with one at last that more than made up for my long spell of peacefulness.

"We went on a voyage to New Zealand, and were in southern latitudes, and not more than a hundred miles or so from the coast of New Caledonia, when the Albatross, which was the name of our vessel, was overtaken in a moment by one of those dreadful cyclones that are so common in that part of the world, and before a man aboard of her had time to say his prayers the Albatross was blown clear under the water."

I had come up from below only a few moments before for a mouthful of fresh air and had got into one of the boats hanging at the davits, and all that I remember was hearing a tremendous roaring of wind and rushing of water, and when my senses returned to me the ship with every soul on board of her had disappeared, and I was alone in the ship's boat on the trackless ocean.

There was a pair of oars in the boat, and that was all, and I knew no more of my longitude and latitude than if I had just dropped from the clouds. But, gentlemen, the sweet little cherub that sits aloft hadn't saved my life so miraculously to desert me now. The sea was not quite calm, and I took a pair of oars and pulled away with a will, trusting to luck.

It was tough work, the sun being blazing hot and not a bit of sup to refresh me. But I kept on pulling all through the day, and was so tired come dark that I sank down in the boat and fell asleep, and to my astonishment when I woke it was daylight, and the craft had drifted to a place where I could tell at a glance was a savage one, for there, at the water's edge, were quite a hundred jet black barbarians, almost naked, brandishing their clubs and spears, and dancing and yelling like mad as they came towards me.

Afraid for my life, I seized the oars and would have dashed off, but perceiving my intention at least a dozen of them plunged into the sea, and being powerful swimmers, it took them but a very few minutes to overhaul me. Some got into the boat, but most of them swam alongside her with one hand and pushed her with the other, while she was beached in an amazing little time.

Well, gentlemen, the question that would naturally come into your minds to ask is 'Were they friendly?' Oh, yes, they were friendly enough, of course; I didn't understand their lingo, but they grinned and waved their hands and patted me about my body. I was a younger man then, and in plump condition. They didn't shake hands, but they pinched me here and pinched me there, and smacked their lips, which I supposed was their savage way of giving a stranger honest welcome.

"But I soon found how mistaken I was. They led me up to the island, clapping their hands and dancing all the way, until we came to a great clump of trees, in the shade of which was a circle of large size made by cutting away the grass, and in the middle of the circle there was a heap of ashes, showing that not long since there had been a fire, and you may judge, gentlemen, of the feeling of horror that thrilled through me when I saw, here and there, strewn on the ground, bones that I could have no doubt were human! Now I knew what my fate was. I was to be killed, cooked, and eaten."

"I had any lingering doubts on the subject they were speedily dispelled. Some of them set about kindling a fire, others plucked broad leaves from the trees to serve, seemingly, instead of plates, and presently they approached the spot where I was guarded an ugly black old savage with a fire and a great broad-bladed knife. I made sure my last moments were come, when, like a flash of lightning, an idea occurred to me."

"I remembered my cork leg! Making believe to be not in the least alarmed, I nodded smilingly towards him to lead me to the weapon, and after a few moments he complied. Then I turned back the leg of my trousers, and while they stood round staring as though their eyes would come out of their heads, cut off my cork limb just below the knee."

"I then snatched the blade for it to cut through the cork clean as you would cut a loaf. This done, I politely handed the old savage the leg and pointed to the fire, which was by this time burning brightly."

"He seemed half afraid to take it, but at last he did, and knowing that it was now impossible for me to run away, they all followed the old savage, and as I could see, there was a great deal of yelling and wonderment, and yet a great deal more when, having laid the leg to grill for a few minutes, it was handed round for them all to smell and taste. Only that my life was hanging on a thread, and, of course, as I could see, they began to look frightened, and the old savage, who seemed to be the chief, made them a speech."

"I can't say what it was about, but as far as I could judge he was telling them that I was not a man at all, but a white wizard or something of that, and quite unfit for human food, and that the sooner they got rid of me the better. It must have been something to that effect, for presently they all came towards me, quite respectful, and with their heads bowed, some carrying fruit and one a jar of water. Then the old savage, kneeling with his face almost touching the earth, began to palaver to me; then two of the strongest took me up in their arms and carried me down to the boat, and placed me in it with the fruit and a jar of water, and shoved me off; and away I went. But after all I might have perished inevitably on the face of the ocean if I had not, on the second day, had the good luck to spy a British merchantman, that bore up and took me aboard and that is my story, gentlemen, word for word just as I told it to the kind lady that recommended me here. You know what her opinions are, and if you would be so kind as to back me up to the extent of a ten-penny note—"

But the worthy president had not the patience to listen to any more. He rose from his chair and rang his bell sharply and Phillip the waiter promptly appeared.

"Go your way, sir," he remarked sternly, addressing Jasper Jukes; "we have nothing to give to rascals sound or crippled. Should there happen to be a club anywhere for the relief of living impostors, you had best apply to them. See the fellow of the promise, Phillip."

Jasper Jukes tried to look injured, but a grin got the better of the counterfeit expression, and with an impudent wink at the old waiter, he stumped off without saying a word.

(To be continued.)

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Though every one will be glad to answer the queries of our correspondents, it is necessary to request that the questions should be sent to the office by Wednesday morning at latest, that for the gardening department a day earlier. Correspondents should be most particular in stating the nature of their queries by writing on separate sheets of paper, and not on the same sheet as the answers to other queries. The name and address of the correspondent should be given, and the name of the paper to which the query is sent, and the name of the paper to which the answer is sent. The name of the paper to which the answer is sent, and the name of the paper to which the answer is sent.

LEGAL.

COACHMAN.—Much too late for a reply last week. See rules above. A month's notice is required in the case of domestic servants, unless otherwise arranged by agreement.

PAYMENT.—To satisfy your own mind as to the amount of the rent, you should have a visit to Somerset House and inspect the will.

HARVEST.—It would make no difference.

W. W.—Yes, provided he did not let the matter go.

R. F.—If it was a clandestine removal he can follow them.

E. C. W.—Give information to the police in the district where the removal was made.

H. H. H.—They are equally legal.

JUSTICE.—Both questions are governed by the rules of the societies respectively.

D. D. D.—The estate takes many of the property, engage a solicitor, and carry through all the rest of the duties pertaining to your position.

H. H. H.—There is no first time. He is quite at liberty to do as he pleases.

DESERVED WIFE.—Either bring him before a magistrate or enter the workhouse.

BOWLER.—No. 1. No. 2. No; you must put up with the lot.

C. G. T.—If not naturalized, your name should not be on the list, but if it is on the list, you can vote, your name being struck off on conviction of any offence.

BRIDGE.—Certainly not.

B. R. C.—You can sue her, but not the husband, as he is not responsible for her proceedings.

PAYMENT.—It was very sharp practice, and we should be inclined to take the judgment of a county court on the question.

W. W.—Clearly you have been very badly used, but we cannot predict what view the court would take after hearing the evidence on both sides. You should have insisted on a written warranty.

A. W.—Your allowing your name to appear in the title of the firm affords prima facie evidence.

E. M. D.—You appear to have no case whatever, nor a shadow of one.

J. C.—You cannot get it until you are able to produce satisfactory proof of his identity.

B. C.—See him for the damage.

J. C.—They should be of adult years.

E. R. B.—She has told you nonsense. See her at once.

D. J.—You appear to be responsible, and the husband is not.

J. C. B.—Yes, if so instructed.

TELEGRAPHIST.—No.

STRAIGHT.—If you have good evidence to back up your statement, you are clearly entitled to pay from the time you knocked off work until the final dismissal. The suit should be instituted at the nearest county court.

E. C.—No.

E. C.—Yes, as the agreement was not with her.

W. W.—To know. If the husband went out of the kingdom, or hid away, or made payments for maintenance during the twelve months, the order could still be applied for.

S. F.—You have no right to sell it without giving your notice.

UPPER TOTTING.—She is only obliged to spend on you the interest she received. Why not live separately?

D. K.—You will have to attend at the place where the act was committed.

K. S.—The parties would be living in adultery, that is all.

K. S.—It would be extremely dangerous. Much better to append a codicil.

M. J.—Yes, so likely to be for a considerable time.

G. J.—You must pay the award.

C. C.—No, it has no legal status.

P. P.—No. 1. No. 2. No. We cannot give any advice.

H. E.—They are sufficiently protected by the Married Women's Property Act.

H. E.—Only the ratepayer.

E. S.—There is only one course—to adopt the usual process in ejectment. It will take some time.

M. J.—You were bound over, we assume, to keep the peace. So long as you do so, you will not be liable to punishment. The wisest course for you would be to have a letter from the court, and to ignore him entirely should you choose to meet.

D. K.—He is perfectly right; the deceased, as a clear, cold head, and a clear conscience, the deeds at any time, on tendering payment of the debt.

M. J.—They are not open to public inspection.

M. J.—No. 1. No. 2. Yes.

G. P.—The will department.

V. C.—1. Possibly, for desertion. 2. The expenses cannot be estimated. 3. You can do nothing.

A. B.—We absolutely decline to give any advice to a dishonest person who contemplates defrauding his creditors. If you do so, you purpose, you will be as bad as a thief, and we trust you will do us the courtesy to let us hear of your success.

Z. C.—You are not bound to let them in, but it is well to show them over the premises.

M. J.—Any money belonging to your separate estate that you banked subsequent to the beginning of 1891, is at your absolute disposal, both now and in future.

P. P.—1. Yes. 2. Yes, if clandestinely removed, but it must be done within a month.

R. D.—Neither one nor the other; both acted in accordance with their judgments of the case.

P. P.—You must also prove cruelty, but you might obtain a judicial separation with maintenance without that.

E. C.—The Exchange, Wilkes, Royal Exchange, has a little book of the sort in stock, we believe.

C. D. E.—Yes, as you expressly consented to it.

J. A. J.—His creditors cannot touch any property belonging to yourself and your wife.

A. B.—1. None whatever; he should have insured his life. 2. The doctor acted, no doubt, to the best of his judgment, nor did the wife do otherwise than what was right.

N. W.—They cannot touch a single thing. If they do, call in the police and give them in charge for theft.

H. R.—It must be sold, and the proceeds be divided among the children in equal shares like the rest of the personal estate.

J. C.—1. He must supply them with suitable clothing. 2. Yes. 3. No.

Z. C.—We replied last week or the week before.

CONSTANT READER (Clapton).—They can take the goods that being part of the contract of marriage.

J. K.—It depends upon the date of the marriage.

H. R.—The Factory Act has nothing to do with the case. Quite regular. Don't be so litigious.

H. R.—If your solicitor is at a loss with the evidence before him, there must be grave perjury in the case, and you should take counsel's opinion.

M. J.—1. Write to the manager. 2. No.

could be made to pay. 3. It would depend entirely upon the view taken by the court. There is no first time. He is quite at liberty to do as he pleases. The suit should be instituted at the nearest county court. E. C.—No. J. C.—Yes, as the agreement was not with her. W. W.—To know. If the husband went out of the kingdom, or hid away, or made payments for maintenance during the twelve months, the order could still be applied for. S. F.—You have no right to sell it without giving your notice. UPPER TOTTING.—She is only obliged to spend on you the interest she received. Why not live separately? D. K.—You will have to attend at the place where the act was committed. K. S.—The parties would be living in adultery, that is all. K. S.—It would be extremely dangerous. Much better to append a codicil. M. J.—Yes, so likely to be for a considerable time. G. J.—You must pay the award. C. C.—No, it has no legal status. P. P.—No. 1. No. 2. No. We cannot give any advice. H. E.—They are sufficiently protected by the Married Women's Property Act. H. E.—Only the ratepayer. E. S.—There is only one course—to adopt the usual process in ejectment. It will take some time. M. J.—You were bound over, we assume, to keep the peace. So long as you do so, you will not be liable to punishment. The wisest course for you would be to have a letter from the court, and to ignore him entirely should you choose to meet. D. K.—He is perfectly right; the deceased, as a clear, cold head, and a clear conscience, the deeds at any time, on tendering payment of the debt. M. J.—They are not open to public inspection. M. J.—No. 1. No. 2. Yes. G. P.—The will department. V. C.—1. Possibly, for desertion. 2. The expenses cannot be estimated. 3. You can do nothing. A. B.—We absolutely decline to give any advice to a dishonest person who contemplates defrauding his creditors. If you do so, you purpose, you will be as bad as a thief, and we trust you will do us the courtesy to let us hear of your success. Z. C.—You are not bound to let them in, but it is well to show them over the premises. M. J.—Any money belonging to your separate estate that you banked subsequent to the beginning of 1891, is at your absolute disposal, both now and in future. P. P.—1. Yes. 2. Yes, if clandestinely removed, but it must be done within a month. R. D.—Neither one nor the other; both acted in accordance with their judgments of the case. P. P.—You must also prove cruelty, but you might obtain a judicial separation with maintenance without that. E. C.—The Exchange, Wilkes, Royal Exchange, has a little book of the sort in stock, we believe. C. D. E.—Yes, as you expressly consented to it. J. A. J.—His creditors cannot touch any property belonging to yourself and your wife. A. B.—1. None whatever; he should have insured his life. 2. The doctor acted, no doubt, to the best of his judgment, nor did the wife do otherwise than what was right. N. W.—They cannot touch a single thing. If they do, call in the police and give them in charge for theft. H. R.—It must be sold, and the proceeds be divided among the children in equal shares like the rest of the personal estate. J. C.—1. He must supply them with suitable clothing. 2. Yes. 3. No. Z. C.—We replied last week or the week before. CONSTANT READER (Clapton).—They can take the goods that being part of the contract of marriage. J. K.—It depends upon the date of the marriage. H. R.—The Factory Act has nothing to do with the case. Quite regular. Don't be so litigious. H. R.—If your solicitor is at a loss with the evidence before him, there must be grave perjury in the case, and you should take counsel's opinion. M. J.—1. Write to the manager. 2. No.

HOUSEHOLD.

F. R.—You must explain more fully what the nature of the work is for which you need the cement.

T. R.—Damp the iron mould marks and strain the portion of the cloth where the marks occur over a bowl of boiling water, sprinkle a little powdered starch on the marks, and at once disappear the marks. The starch is a little to hasten its action. When the mark is gone wash the end of the fabric, do not leave the powder on it, as it is poisonous. Some use liquid acid of lemon for the same purpose, pouring a drop or two over the stain, the acid is more effective, but the powdered form is more economical.

C. F.—We have given the recipe several times and are too crowded at present to repeat it. The cloth should be as much fresh as to ensure a truly good result.

M. J.—We cannot ask any of our readers to "lend" Martha a book of instructions to enable her to do the work, as it is a private matter. "Martha" does not even give a sewing-machine.

J. H. B.—Out in shaving three-quarters of a pound of soap, put it in a jar or basin with a couple of less than half a pint of turpentine, and stand the jar in a pot of hot water, or better, perhaps, in a hot water bath till the soap is thoroughly melted in the turpentine to the consistency of thick cream. It is, when cool, rapidly rubbed over the wood with a cloth; if too thick to allow of this, it is brushed with some force, using a special wax polishing brush, which can be bought for the purpose. To brighten the polish, and to give it a fine, smooth, and shining surface, a little of the turpentine is poured over the surface, and the whole is rubbed with a soft cloth.

WHITE PAINT.—The stain should have been got out with turpentine, and when first seen; it has now probably become a fast dye, and how to get rid of it we have no suggestion to offer.

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POACHERS.
southern countries is as there had been a good thing and some terribly with the gamekeepers, as a rule, men to be the noble owner is known aversion to violence for legal prosecutions, determined to take the own hands. As a result every poacher was well-gamkeeper. Some of the wildest and most skilful of he boldly asked him why, warnings, he persisted in actions upon himself. The could not get work—being a poacher—either on the in a farm, and was forced a fearful living in this way, men to go on?" "Not if a place at the poorest a estate." "Then you" was the reply. That ago, and the man still ation; and when he is o work will have some or light duty to diso will once on comfort and a career that might not have finished on the r is this an isolated fact, in the neighbour- there is but little cept by chance visitors uring industrial centres.

Marionettes of Bath
city worth £151,386.

MAN'S WATCHES
VALUE, THE STRONGEST, MOST
FINEST TIMEKEEPERS
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English Leather Jewelled. 12 actions, 12
diamonds, 12 jewels, 12 points. Enlarged
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inches, and is double the strength and
a Watch you can't break.

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also for Railway Men and Miners.

Stapling Silver Cases, with Strong
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diamonds' case, £12 12s.

18ct. Gold, £10 10s.

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payment at G.P.O., Bank Office, and
London, just only, sent post free on

LAMPFILE, the largest and best of
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IF YOU SUFFER FROM
INDIGESTION,
IF YOU CANNOT
ASSIMILATE YOUR FOOD.
IF ANY FOOD DISAGREES
WITH YOU.

**THE DIGESTIVE
TABLET SALT.**
IT DIGESTS THE FOOD WITH
WHICH IT IS EATEN,
WHICH RESTORES DYSPEPTIC
TO A CONDITION OF
HEALTH AND COMFORT.
MEDICAL MEN HAVE TRIED IT
AND RECOMMEND IT.
ANALYSTS HAVE TESTED IT, AND
CERTIFIED TO ITS ACTIVITY.

ONE SALTSPONNFUL
TO BE TAKEN
WITH EACH MEAL.
—BEWARE OF IMITATIONS
PEPSALIA
IS GENUINE.
FILES 15. and 25. EACH,
from chemicals, or from
and G. STERN,
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SPECIAL PRICES.

LE & CO. are now offering a Million
of Best Quality Carpets, Carpets,
and Carpets, as usually sold at
16s. 3d. at the low price of 15s. 6d. per
yarders to suit, thus a Burdett Carpet
is had for 4s. 6d. or one 15s. 6d.
at 15s. 6d.

REDSTEADS.
REDSTEADS FROM 9s. 9d.
ADDS. 10,000 IN STOCK.

REDSTEADS.
which seldom numbers less than
three Strong Bedsteads for Youths or
9s. 9d.; Black and Brass Bedstead
16s. 3d.; 18-inch Bedsteads from
15s. Wire-woven Mattresses, comfort
beauty, from 9s. 6d. All bedding
on the premises, and guaranteed pure
and clean.

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HOME FURNITURE.
HAPLE and CO.—THE LATEST SCHEM, in
wood, iron, and brass, elegant, California
—consisting of wardrobe with carved
finished glass centre door, dressing table
bevelled glass, jewel drawers, and
bevelled with cupboard below, marble
slab, towel rods at ends, and art silk
chairs; £8 15s. Designs free by post.

HAPLE and CO.
HAPLE and CO., Designers and Manufacturers
of Home Furniture. The largest and
best Furnishing Establishment in the
London, Scotland, and

PIPER PAN.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

Certainly, frogs are able to survive under painful circumstances. All the cold-blooded races of creatures are wonderfully tenacious of life and insensible to pain—fish especially. The numerous well-authenticated cases in which fish, having been returned to the native element after suffering severe mauling from the angler, have been speedily caught again, prove that their sense of pain is not very acute. The knowledge that the

THE ACTOR

As it is, how disheartening must these prompt withdrawals be to the actors and actresses who have been engaged "for the run." Of course they have accepted the arrangement with their eyes open, and it is true that leading players do not combine to refuse employment except for a fixed term. The only alternative to this, it seems to me, is payment for rehearsal. It is hard that after rehearsing for three weeks, artists should act only for three nights! The profession should take the matter into their con-

OLD IZAAK.

GENERAL CHATTER, M.P.

Having reason to believe that there are hundreds of ex-soldiers who are entitled to deferred pensions which they do not claim owing to being in ignorance of their legal rights, Capt.-maj. Fisher, of Kerdiston House, Walthamstow, who was to insert the following:—“Any man who was enlisted before the 24th July, 1964, and who was discharged before he was invalided, or on reduction of force, or on G.C. badge, six months in possession, is entitled, with certain exceptions, to a deferred pension. Also men who were discharged at their own request, with fourteen years service or more, with two or more G.C.

MADAME.

As you know I love to give mother economical wrinkles. Here is one—I have just seen a brown beige that did duty last year as second-best dress for a girl of 14 washed and re-made into the prettiest of sensible frocks for a little 8-year-old sister. The dress, having been unknicked, was washed in a lather of yellow soap and pressed on the wrong side with a cool iron while damp. A piece of golden brown velveteen came out of the thrifty mother's store of odds and ends and was made into a deep square yoke ending into this yoke, the frock, consisting of perfectly straight breadths, was gathered with a slight heading; back and front were exactly the same. It fell in straight soft folds to the bottom above the ankles, and was finished at the bottom by a hem and three tucks. The tucks, pushed in just to letting down by and by. Very loose indeed, and was gathered into loose cuffs of velveteen. The

nectar. _____

"Anxious One" asking me to tell him how to renickel the plated parts of his machine. It cannot be done at home; both training and skill and costly appliances are required for a successful operation. As well might an amateur attempt to resilver a mirror. Now is there any occasion for the experiment? Any good repairer will do the job on most reasonable terms, and do it thoroughly.

—

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ALLEGED WHOLESALE MURDERS NEAR LIVERPOOL.



DISCOVERY OF FIVE BODIES.—THE VICTIMS BURIED
IN CEMENT.—GHASTLY DETAILS.

The village of Rainhill, about nine miles from Liverpool, was on Wednesday thrown into a state of excitement by the discovery of five bodies of persons who had been murdered. A telegram from Melbourne received on the 12th inst. stated that the body of a woman had been discovered in an empty house at Windor, a suburb of Melbourne, buried in cement under a fireplace in one of the rooms. The woman's throat had been cut and her skull fractured. The remains were found to be those of a woman who had passed as the wife of a man named Williams, and who had formerly lived at New Brighton, and carried on business in Liverpool. She arrived in the Melbourne neighbourhood of Melbourne in December last. Nothing was known at New Brighton of the woman as Williams; but a later telegram stated that she came from Rainhill, where she had been married to Williams, who had been arrested in Western Australia on the charge of murder. Inquiries at Rainhill led to the discovery that the woman was Miss Mather, daughter of an old resident of Rainhill, and that she had lived there with her widowed mother. In July last Mr. A. O. Williams arrived at Rainhill and put up at a local hotel, describing himself as an inspector of regiments. Mrs. Mather, who kept a stationer's shop, was introduced to the man by the name of Williams, and this house Williams agreed to take. During the negotiations he became acquainted with Miss Mather. A day or two after Mr. Williams arrived, a lady, accompanied by children, visited him on one or two occasions. Then the woman and children suddenly disappeared, and Williams accounted for this by stating that she had gone to join her husband at Port Said. Williams, who appeared to have plenty of money, lived in the villa for a few days, and then returned to the hotel, where he remained until he left for London. He was away a fortnight, and then came back wearing military uniform. He entertained some of the residents to dinner, and announced that he was about to marry Miss Mather. The wedding

took place at 8 o'clock on a morning in September last, at Rainhill parish church; the bride and bridegroom left immediately afterwards for London, en route to Australia. Letters were received by Mrs. Mather from various places, describing the journey, and stating that she was very happy. The murdered woman, who was a white, came a telegram announcing the discovery of the body in Melbourne. The police at Scotland Yard communicated with the police of Windor, in which division Rainhill is situated, and inquired into the above facts being ascertained, and also to the discovery that during her stay at Rainhill, Williams had committed the floor of the kitchen at the villa, which had remained empty since his departure from England. Williams had commenced the cementing himself, but had got a local plasterer to complete it. Suspicion was at once aroused that something was hidden beneath this cemented floor, and the police decided to take it up.

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STATEMENT BY A HOTEL PROPRIETOR. Mr. Short, landlord of the Commercial Hotel, Rainhill, who had many opportunities of noting Williams's life, said that Williams was the last man he would have dreamt would do such a thing. Asked as to the rumour that on one occasion blood was found on some of the man's garments, Mr. Short described the circumstances under which he had discovered traces of blood on a coat of his late guest. He said: "On the morning that he (Williams) came back, that was the Monday morning, he left on the Saturday to go and live at the villa, his clothes were lying about the room, and I said, after making some remarks as to the room being untidy, 'I think I had better brush the lot.' He said, 'Oh, no, Mr. Short, I have always called every body Mr.—never mind.' I said, 'Oh, no; the room is not fit to be seen.' I then took them all out, and first brushed the French regimental clothes he sometimes wore, and afterwards I picked out the other suits one by one and brushed them, and on which down the front and on the arm and collar I noticed spatters of blood. I didn't think anything of it at the time, except that perhaps his nose had been bleeding, or that he had cut himself." On inquiring as to whether Mr. Short had ever entered Dinham Villa, he said, "Oh, yes, many times. Williams kept a very decent cellar, and the house and I used to go with him and look at some of his curiosities. He had a lot of spears and daggers, and on one occasion he pointed out a spear with which he said he had been stabbed by the blacks, and that it was poisoned. I asked him how it was that he had not been killed, and he told me that he got one of his blacks to suck out the poison, and he said he had killed many a black. Williams only furnished one room in the villa, but that was very comfortably furnished."

PURCHASE OF THE CEMENT AND FURNITURE. It has been discovered that the cement used was purchased from Messrs. James Howarth and Co., cement and lime merchants, Bickerstaffe-street, St. Helens, whose ledger contains accounts to the order of Miss Mather (supposed to be the woman murdered) at Rainhill, July 23rd, one barrel of cement; July 30th, two barrels of cement; August 1st, one barrel, and August 4th, one barrel. The barrels were fetched by Oliver Duxbury, son of the landlady of the Coach and Horse Inn, Rainhill, and were paid for when taken away. The furniture was purchased at Liverpool on July 24th by Williams, who made it an absolute condition of purchase that the articles which he wished to obtain should be delivered by noon on the following day. The assistants who attended to him have a distinct recollection of the man, and described him as being of medium height, about 35 years of age, and having a heavy mustache. He had a military bearing, and was wearing, notwithstanding that it was in the middle of the summer, a long grey overcoat. Williams informed the shopmen that he had just taken Dinham Villa, and wanted a few articles for immediate use. He further informed them that it was his intention to furnish the house through him. He was never seen in the establishment again.

His Acquaintance with Miss Mather. Williams formed the acquaintance of Miss Mather when negotiating with Mrs. Mather for the occupation of the house. He was introduced to her by the name of Williams, and eventually married her on September 22nd. When in the vestry after the ceremony, the bridegroom, who described himself as "Inspector of Army Stores," volunteered the statement that the War Office were going to send him a cheque for £200, and that in eighteen months time he would be discharged with a considerable pension. He had been married for three months, and the newly married couple proceeded to London, where they stayed for three weeks. Then returning to Rainhill they remained a few days with Mrs. Mather prior to their departure from London for Melbourne.

A "JACK THE RIPPER" THEORY. An extraordinary rumour is current in Rainhill and Prescott to the effect that the man Williams will be found to be no other than "Jack the Ripper." Many things tend to confirm this theory. One of the most important facts that while at Rainhill, Williams was wearing, notwithstanding that it was in the middle of the summer, a long grey overcoat. Williams informed the shopmen that he had just taken Dinham Villa, and wanted a few articles for immediate use. He further informed them that it was his intention to furnish the house through him. He was never seen in the establishment again.

A NEIGHBOUR'S STORY. A nurseryman, who lives at the next house to Dinham Villa, has (according to the Liverpool Courier) made an important statement, affording a clue to the date of the murders. He says that in August last a woman and four children arrived at Dinham Villa. Soon after their arrival two of the children, a boy and a girl, came to the garden wall, and seeing him gathering strawberries, asked if he would sell them some, and how much they were a quart. He said to the little girl who addressed him, "What is your name?" She was about to answer when the man Williams, from the kitchen, shouted out sharply, "Come in." The children at once turned round and ran into the house. The next day the nurseryman heard of his neighbours was on the Sunday morning, when a postman knocked at the door and the sound of the unbarred and unbolted was heard to his wife that they were curious people next door, for they were seemingly afraid that the Rainhill people were going to run away with them. On the Monday morning following he heard the children crying, and that was the last he either heard or saw of them.

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED. During the time he was staying at Rainhill Williams did his best to get into society, but he failed to do so, although he displayed good and handsome appearance. Another inquiry

disclosed that the wedding took place on September 22nd, Williams describing himself in the marriage register as an inspector of army stores. The pair left on the same day for London, on their honeymoon, and remained in the metropolis for three weeks. They then returned to Rainhill, where they stayed a few days with Mrs. Mather, finally again leaving for London. Williams stating that he was returning to Calcutta to complete his time in the army. As it afterwards transpired, they sailed for Melbourne and not for Calcutta. According to a further report from Australia, it is stated that in addition to the body of the woman who was formerly Miss Mather, another woman and two children had been missing for some time. Should these cases be connected with Williams, they bring the total number of murders to nine.

His Career in Australia. A Dalziel's telegram from Melbourne says: "The police have been investigating the antecedents of the man Williams. They have traced his career for a number of years past, and it is alleged that he has been concerned in a variety of swindling transactions in Sydney, Melbourne, Cape Town, and England. Williams, who was a mining engineer, was married to a Miss Mather, at Rainhill, in 1880. This lady he suddenly deserted. All attempts to trace the whereabouts of his reputed wife and children, who mysteriously disappeared in Sydney, have proved fruitless, despite the exhaustive inquiries instituted by the police."

The Victims Identified. The deceased woman has been identified as Mrs. Deeming, who was employed at a Liverpool salomonger's shop. Williams courted and married her in the name of Deeming, describing himself as a mining engineer. They left Liverpool and went to Hull, where Williams was convicted of forgery, and sent to goal for twelve months. He was released on the 15th of the month, and he wished the latter to go abroad, but she declined, and he deserted her and returned to his first wife. They afterwards went to Cape Town, returning to Rainhill, where they resided for some time. The deceased woman has three brothers and two sisters living at Rainhill. The children are identified as Mrs. Deeming's.

The Dates of the Murders. From further inquiries it is believed that the murders took place during the night of Sunday, 1st of August. The plasterers were called in a day or two after that date. When the first one went to the house he noticed three barrels full of cement, and the bodies of the three victims were found. It was called to him that he could not see what had been done with the contents of the first barrel. Williams appears to have made no secret of the fact that he was carrying on some extensive operations in the house, as he hammered about the place, and walked about the station. The discovery has been made that Williams was always a roving disposition, and in early life went to sea in a sailing vessel as a steward. After visiting various portions of the globe he returned to Rainhill in 1880, when he gave his brothers to understand that he had been successful as a mining engineer in Australia. In fact, he was a mining engineer in Australia, and was married to a Miss Mather, at Rainhill, in 1880. Williams was a mining engineer in Australia, and was married to a Miss Mather, at Rainhill, in 1880. Williams was a mining engineer in Australia, and was married to a Miss Mather, at Rainhill, in 1880.

Supposed Murders Identified. A Liverpool correspondent telegraphing on Thursday night says: "The accused is the third son of the late Mr. E. Deeming, who for many years carried on business as a whitewash at Rainhill, where the family are held in the greatest respect. Frederick Deeming is stated by his relatives to be always of a roving disposition, and in early life went to sea in a sailing vessel as a steward. After visiting various portions of the globe he returned to Rainhill in 1880, when he gave his brothers to understand that he had been successful as a mining engineer in Australia. In fact, he was a mining engineer in Australia, and was married to a Miss Mather, at Rainhill, in 1880. Williams was a mining engineer in Australia, and was married to a Miss Mather, at Rainhill, in 1880.

A Mysterious Picture. A curious circumstance is related by the London and North-Western Railway officials at St. Helens, who state that on October 6th last, a man, who was described as "Two last years ago," by the artist, Bolland, arrived at St. Helens, addressed at Williams. To be called

about eighteen months ago Deeming represented, while living at Rainhill, both to his wife and his acquaintances, that he was about to return to the Cape to resume his mining operations. It was, however, best since ascertained that he was in fact a young woman belonging to Beverley, whom he married. While living at Hull he forged a cheque for £180. For this he was apprehended, and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment. Upon his liberation the young lady, who was of a respectable family, declined to leave Hull with him. Deeming then went back to his wife, who, in the meantime, had been staying at Rainhill. He, it is stated, told his wife of the Hull marriage, and asked her, in case any inquiries were made, to deny that she was his wife, but the poor woman, although anxious to screen him, refused to deny that he was her husband. It is stated that the murdered woman was aware that her husband had taken Dinham Villa. He at the same time retained his residence at Rainhill; sometimes his wife and children went to stay with him at Rainhill, and on other occasions Deeming visited his wife at Rainhill. This is held to explain the circumstances connected with his conduct. His frequent absences from Rainhill, he explained, were occasioned by his visits to London, but were in reality occasioned by his visits to his wife at Rainhill, and little ones who visited him at Rainhill, and whose identity he was so anxious to conceal, and who, he said, were his sister and her family, were his own wife and children. Mrs. Deeming was very much concerned by reason of what she described as the "carriage on" of her husband, and determined to bring matters to a crisis by taking her family with her to Rainhill, and establishing herself at Dinham Villa. At this time Deeming, alias Williams, was courting Miss Mather, and the arrival of his wife with her four children no doubt interfered with his plans. Hence the tragedy which followed.

A PLEA OF INSANITY. **SINGULAR DEFENCE.** **HANBURY V. HANBURY.**—This was the wife's petition for a divorce. The respondent's answer was a denial, and as to the alleged cruelty, it was pleaded that the respondent committed any of the acts alleged did so at a time when he was a lunatic. When the case was mentioned in court a few days ago his lordship expressed the view that the plea of lunacy was not a good plea, and would be no answer to the petition. Before the case was opened Mr. Lockwood wished to argue the point of law as to the validity of the plea, and said he did not admit that the respondent was insane, and therefore that there was an issue which the jury would have to try. His lordship said he held the plea was not a good one, and he should stop the evidence as to lunacy being given. Mr. Underwick then opened the case for the petitioner. He said when the facts were laid before the jury Mrs. Hanbury was a lady who had lived a most unhappy life, and had had great trouble. Mr. Hanbury, the respondent, was a partner in a brewery at Waterbury, in Kent, and in May, 1875, he was married to a Miss Clara Martha Whitehead, the petitioner. At the time of the marriage a settlement was made, under which the husband was to have a sum of £2,000 which the husband consented to settle upon her. They lived together at different places, and six children were born, of whom five are living. In 1882, or somewhere about that time, Mr. Hanbury took to drinking heavily, and the result of this was that when he was under the influence of drink he was guilty of the grossest possible cruelty to his wife. He knocked her down, threatened her life, and on more than one occasion threw liquor over her, hurled glasses at her, and committed various other acts of the kind to such an extent that it was absolutely impossible for Mrs. Hanbury to live with him any longer. Therefore they separated. The petitioner was called, and, having borne out the opening statement of counsel, the case was adjourned. On the hearing of the case being resumed, Mr. Lockwood read a solicitor's letter with the purpose of showing the condition of the respondent's mind. The judge, interposing, suggested that the counsel was attempting to draw a distinction between insanity as brought on by drink and the ordinary form of mental aberration. The respondent was undoubtedly out of his mind at times. Evidence having been called as to the alleged misconduct of respondent at Exeter, Mr. Whitehead, of Sidcup, the brother of the petitioner, said that the respondent was much addicted to drink, and on one occasion in March, 1883, when witness met him in Regent-street, he was so drunk that he was followed by a large crowd. This drinking brought on an attack of delirium tremens, and since that time witness had several times seen him suffering from the effects of excessive drinking. In consequence of the wife's mind was very violent towards his wife, and ultimately he had to be confined in an asylum. Mr. G. H. Gaunce, a brewer, of Scarborough, said that he married a sister of Mrs. Hanbury. The respondent used to drink continually small quantities of brandy and port wine. (The President: Mixing them?—Witness: Yes, (Laughter.) On one occasion he got very drunk, and wanted to propose the health of the "best lady in the land." (Laughter.) On that occasion he called the petitioner very abusive names, and threatened to murder her. Late that night the witness heard cries of murder, and went to the petitioner's room. Mr. Hanbury was in a very excited state of mind, and threatened to murder the baby. Witness saw that he was in a very drunk and wanted to murder him, when he sprang at his throat, but witness got him down. Afterwards a warrant was taken out against him, and he was bound over to the justices for £1,000.—Cross-examined: When not under the influence of drink he was a kindly and an affectionate nature. He was not able to drink, and on one occasion he was violent towards his wife. Between these attacks it was stated that he was a kind and affectionate father.—Mr. Lockwood, for the respondent, said that his answer to the petition was that at the time the acts of cruelty were committed he was sane, and that, therefore, he could not be held responsible for their commission. Evidence would be called to show that the disease Mr. Hanbury was suffering from was hereditary, but during the progress of the attacks no doubt there was a development of a craving for drink, and that, if he was in a state of drunkenness he was not accountable for his actions?—Mr. Lockwood: No, my lord. Drink is no excuse for crime.—Sir C. Butt: If a man gets drunk at 6, and commits a murder at 10, you will not say he was not responsible for the crime?—Mr. Lockwood said he quite admitted he would be responsible, but there was a distinction recognised in the criminal law, that whereas a man was not to be excused from a crime committed in a drunken condition, or, on the other hand, a condition brought about by habitual and confirmed intemperance, which produced a frenzy and madness, that which had been held in some cases to constitute a wife and then committed suicide.

THE CONDITION OF IRELAND. Mr. Justice William O'Brien, in opening the County Cork Assizes, made some important remarks about the state of the county. Addressing a grand jury, he said he was very much pleased indeed to be able to state, upon the information supplied to him, that, notwithstanding some trifling and inconsiderable efforts to fan the expiring flame of disorder, the county was in a most satisfactory condition. The flood of crime that for so many years had passed over it, in common with other counties, had entirely run down. The offences reported to the constabulary for the last Riding were slightly less, but substantially equal in number to those reported for the corresponding period last year. The West Riding—that part of this country which might be supposed to suffer most from difficulty and distress—exhibited an extraordinary number of offences, but not less than the other counties. The offences reported for the corresponding period last year were ninety-four, while for the present period they amounted to but thirty-one. All trace of any kind of offences indicating a state of disorder or agrarian disturbance was entirely wanting. Some of the most mischievous and injurious features that had distinguished the state of things in this country had ceased altogether. One alone deserved particular notice. Boycotting was at an end, and the attention of the people generally was found to be turned to questions that affected their material prosperity.

THE MURDER OF DR. CRONIN. **NEW REVELATIONS EXPECTED.** Mr. John F. Scanlon, a noted Irish advocate in Chicago, who was one of the late Dr. Cronin's most intimate friends, and whose efforts were largely instrumental in bringing about the arrest and subsequent conviction of Cronin and other implicated in the Cronin murder, says that new and important evidence has been obtained, affecting not only those now in prison, but others against whom there have been suspicions all along. The time, he declares, is near when the country will see the history of the great conspiracy laid before it from beginning to end. The decision of the supreme court on the application for a new trial of Cronin and three others is, it is said, daily expected.

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defence. But as his case was that drink was a symptom and not a cause, it was not really necessary for him to go so far.—Sir C. Butt pointed out the petitioner's case was just the opposite—that the whole thing arose from drink. It might become necessary to consider the other question—Medical evidence was called with a view to prove that the respondent's craving for drink arose from insanity, and was not the cause of it.—One witness said Mr. Hanbury was perfectly mad. He thought himself a great personal friend of Mr. Gladstone; that he (Mr. Hanbury) was going to be Prime Minister; and he thought himself a great poet and a great musician. His lordship said the main object of the suit was the wife's protection. Although the court had been established thirty odd years, the plea of insanity, as a defence in a divorce suit, had never yet been decided. It embraced a very broad question, and they must be careful how they dealt with it.

Sir C. Butt's Summing-up and Verdict. The great conflict in the case was the cause of the respondent's conduct. The petitioner said it was drink; for the respondent it was contended it was disease; and it would be for the jury to say which side they believed. They had had abundant medical evidence on both sides, and great stress had been laid on the opinion that the respondent was suffering from what the French call folie circulaire, or in other words, recurrent mania. Some of the medical men did not believe in folie circulaire, but the importance to be attached to the theory remained for them to decide. It was very strange that they had abundant evidence of drink, but, apart from the opinion of the medical men who had been called as to what the disease was and how it came about, they had not a little of evidence. He was certainly awaiting with some curiosity, if not anxiety, to hear from some members of Mr. Hanbury's family, if not the medical men, which of his ancestors had a disease akin to this folie circulaire. The respondent had given reasons for his conduct, but they might be adequate or inadequate, had not been called, and not being called, and his defence being that the whole thing was explicable and excusable by an hereditary disease, there was not one shadow or tittle of evidence from beginning to end that any of his ancestors ever had an insanity of the kind. The jury found that the respondent had been guilty of cruelty to his wife and adultery with Ann Young, Alice Palman, and Emily Ireland, and that he was capable of understanding the nature and consequences of the acts.—On that finding his lordship granted a decree to Mrs. Hanbury, with costs. He also gave the petitioner the custody of the children, and he directed that access to the children should be settled in the registry.

DIVORCE OR SEPARATION? In the Divorce Court, Mr. Dixon made an application that Mrs. Lewis should be called upon to have the decree she had obtained against her husband, Arthur Percy Lewis, a solicitor, of Gray's Inn, made absolute, or, failing that, that her petition should be dismissed. The suit was tried in December, 1890, when the petitioner obtained a decree nisi; but since that time nothing had been done.—Sir C. Butt, addressing Mrs. Lewis, who appeared in person, asked her why she did not take steps to have the decree made absolute. Mrs. Lewis said she had three children, and she could not do so. He told her that either the decree ought to be made absolute or the petition dismissed.—Mrs. Lewis asked if she could have alimony?—Sir C. Butt told her she could, but the decree must be made absolute first, and then she could apply for permanent alimony.—Mrs. Lewis said her husband, a solicitor, said that she was a woman of no character. Sir C. Butt: There are plenty of solicitors who don't make that.—Mrs. Lewis: My husband pays £200 per annum for his chambers.—Sir C. Butt: All that will be gone into when you make application for permanent alimony. What is the reason you do not have the decree made absolute?—Mrs. Lewis said that there was a provision in his father's will which left him £1,500 under certain conditions, and she was afraid if the decree were made absolute the respondent might marry again, and then he might make a will disposing of the £1,500 to the issue of the second marriage, and she and her children be left destitute. She had only £28 a year to live on. Sir C. Butt pointed out that if she got her decree made absolute she could file a petition for permanent alimony, which the respondent would be called upon to pay if he had means.—Mrs. Lewis: May I have time to consider my position?—Sir C. Butt: I will give you a week. I don't understand why you hesitate to have the decree made absolute. Mrs. Lewis said she would grant me judicial separation. Mr. Dixon urged that it was rather late in the day to ask for that.—Sir C. Butt said he was not sure of that. She could move for an amendment of her petition, asking, instead of a divorce, for a decree for judicial separation, and he would allow her to do that next motion day, when the matter could be argued.

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**London County Sessions,
Clerkenwell**

summoned for causing it to be worked.—The prisoner Wyatt was stopped in the Hammer-smith-road on Friday, March 4th, by an officer of the Royal Society, while on the way with a load of manure to Longford, a distance of some ten miles. The horse was found in a weak condition, with two old wounds under the saddle, which was pressing upon them, the hind legs being paralysed, and the discharge. The prisoner, on being taken into custody, stated that he was sent out with the horse by the owner.—Mr. Y. Ridler, a veterinary surgeon, who was requested by the magistrate to examine the horse, said he found it in a disgracefully emaciated condition, the bones almost protruding through the skin, and the old angina in the throat, having been unfit for a considerable period.—The owner said the horse had not been out of the stable for a fortnight. He had lost six horses, his land was flooded, and the things spoiled. He intended only to work the horse three journeys until the spring, and then buy another. His wife and child were dead.—His wife was slaughtered.—Mr. Curtis Bennett said he expected to hear the horse had been killed. He saw the horse, and was shocked to see the state in which it had been sent out. It was a bad case, and if there had been a former conviction he would have committed the owner to prison. However, he sent him to be imprisoned for one month. He fined the carman 10s., or seven days. He refused to allow the owner time to pay the money.

North London.

AFRAID TO SLEEP FOR FEAR OF MURDER.—Charles Shadbolt, 35, carman, of Watson-street, South Horse, was charged on a warrant with having threatened to kill her.—His wife and threatened to kill her, and as the poor woman was now in a delicate state of health she pleaded for a separation, because she was afraid of him. She was afraid to go to sleep for fear of being murdered.—Mr. Corser said he could not grant a separation on this evidence.—The prisoner's excuse was that she had not wanted to go to the house of the Warrant-office, Bradford, who arrested the prisoner, said the house was fairly well kept considering the number of people in it, and also considering that the prosecutrix had to work for her living.—Mr. Corser sent the prisoner to goal for a month's hard labour.

Mariborough-street.

HUSBAND AND WIFE.—Samuel Solomon, a fine art dealer, refusing his address, was summoned by his wife for non-payment of an order of maintenance amounting to £2 10s. The wife said that the order for the payment of 15s. a week was made by a magistrate in September last, and more than £6 was now owing. She now sought, however, to obtain payment for three weeks only, and she would not have proceeded against him for that had it not been that he was living with another woman. She had said that herself and two children. The prisoner said that his wife was in possession of his business, worth at least £1 a week.—Mr. Newton said that the order should be upheld, and the prisoner was sent to goal for a month.

Highbury.

ABANDONMENT OF A CHILD.—Hannah Joyce, 18, a domestic servant, of 41, Shaftesbury-road, Horney Rise, was charged with abandoning her illegitimate son to £2 10s. Mr. Valentine said that on the night of February 28th he was in his garden when he heard a voice as if of cats, but, as it was so persistent, he got a lantern, and under the hedge of the fence found a female child only partly clothed. He took the child indoors and fed it. The police were called in, and at first promised to take it away to a home for foundlings, but could not. The relieving officer was fetched, and he took the infant to the workhouse.—Sergt. Alexander, Y Division, said he had made inquiries, which led him to go to 41, Shaftesbury-road, where he saw the prisoner. On the way to the station she said, "It was so hard to try to find a home for her. I was all right." When she was told the child was alive, she said, "I think the devil must have been in me when I did it; I am glad you come for me, as I could not rest day or night, and I thought I should go out of my mind. You are sure she is all right? I would have given anything to have got it back after I put it over."—Sergt. Alexander said the child was now at the district shelter was 5 years old, and her father was killed on the railway about eight years since.—The girl was remanded in custody.

Thames.

ALLEGED INTRIGUE WITH A PUBLICAN'S WIFE.—William Higgins, proprietor of the Victory beerhouse, Eastfield-street, Mile End, was summoned for violently assaulting his wife, Elizabeth, and Joseph Overton, Canal-road, Mile End, for a public nuisance. The proceedings were taken on the 18th February. Mrs. Higgins went out on an errand and called at the house of Mrs. Hughes, Eastfield-street, who was sister to Overton. While there the latter came in and directly after defendant entered and severely beat his wife and Overton. Both were seriously injured, and the latter was pronounced dead in the Hospital for upwards of a fortnight in consequence of the ill-treatment.—For the defence Mr. Youngallered that Overton had been carrying on an intrigue with Mrs. Higgins. On the day in question the former was in the beerhouse, and as soon as Mrs. Higgins went out he followed her and joined her. Defendant, who had been following them, was so exasperated that he followed and assaulted both of them. Overton afterwards took a constable to Higgins' place, but refused to charge him, defendant telling him by his refusal he had proved him self guilty. Although the assault might not be justified in law, the defendant did what might have been expected.—Mr. Dickinson said that was not a divorce court. It was clear complainants were acting in a manner that was not proper, and that they and their witnesses had not stated all they knew. Defendant had acted in a very violent manner, and would be fined 10s. or seven days, and the wife remanded in custody of 28s.

PICKING POCKETS THROUGH WANT.

George McCarthy, 19, a miserable-looking young fellow, was charged with loitering at attempting to pick pockets.—P.C. 205 H. Friday evening was with P.C. Fluster in High-street, Whitechapel, when he saw McCarthy scoping in a suspicious manner. He went into the middle of several crowds, and tried to pick the pockets of a number of persons. He was then taken into custody.—McCarthy now pleaded guilty, and said he had been out of work for long time and only buried a child on Tuesday. He had no food on Friday until Tuesday, when he was arrested. He was remanded for inquiries.

Southwark.

ALLEGED ATTEMPT TO DEFRAUD A FRIEND SOCIETY.—Two married women, named Ellen Luckins and Martha Alford, both living in Bermondsey, appeared to an adjourned summons charging them with conspiracy to defraud the Royal London Friendly Society of £4000. The charge was made by the Boardman defended.—Mr. Washington stated that the charge against the accused was of a somewhat serious nature. Like other societies, the Royal London Friendly Society insured the lives

In May a small weekly premium. In May the defendant Luckins insured her son William aged 5, at a premium of 1d. per week, which she regularly paid until November 1891. She then informed the collector that she had made a mistake in the name and that Ephraim was the name of the child and that William, and she wished to have it corrected. The matter was reported to the head office, and calling two days later he was informed the child was dead, and the insurance money required for the funeral expenses. Inquiries were instituted, and it was discovered that the child insured as William was still alive, and the defendants had attempted to substitute Ephraim for William. For the defence Mr. Boardman stated that the defendants meant to insure Ephraim but made a mistake in the name.—Mr. Slade committed the accused for trial, taking bail.

A SHERIFF'S OFFICIALS STOP OBSTRUCTION.—John Simpson, a sheriff's officer, appeared at a summons taken out by the police for causing an obstruction by depositing a quantity of furniture on the footway. The defendant had been employed by the sheriff to effect an ejectment from a beer-shop in Great Suffolk-street under an order from the county court. He turned the furniture out and deposited it on the footway. The obstruction complained of.—Counsel for the defence argued that his client, acting under an order from the superior court, had placed upon him the obligation to remove the goods in question, and he said he was not responsible for it. It was the order of the court. He was not a witness.—Mr. St. John Wortner, the owner for the Police Commissioners, said the law gave the police power to prevent street obstruction, no matter by whom it was created. In this case it was clear that the goods were placed on the pavement by the defendant, and he was therefore responsible for causing the obstruction.—After some further argument Mr. Slade said he must decide against the defendant, who was not justified in leaving the goods on the pavement.—Counsel for the defence asked to have a case stated for argument in a superior court.—Mr. Slade said he would grant a case, and fined defendant 5s. and 2s. costs.

Lambeth.

A SHAKER UP AT BAXTER.—Morris Hart, well-known, was charged before Mr. Biron, Q.C., with being drunk whilst in charge of a horse and trap and with furious driving. Edwin Richens was also charged with obstructing P.S. Smithers in the execution of his duty.—From the evidence of P.C. 15 WR, it appeared that on Friday night he saw the prisoner Hart driving in a very careless manner in the Brixton road. He drove against the police put up by the tramway company for the protection of the public. The result of this was, that damage was done and the trap overturned. The constable found that Hart was drunk, and quite unfit to have control of a horse. The other prisoner then came up and obstructed a W.R. and a P.C. Mr. Biron asked the charge. Hart was in one of those "joyful" moods; he did not mind how he drove along so long as he went pretty fast. (Laughter.)—He fined Hart 5s., or five days, and allowed Richens to be discharged with a caution.

Wandsworth.

A TROUBLESOME SON.—George William Spicer, 32, who described himself as a seaman, was charged with wilfully breaking two plate-glass panels in the front door of 177, Lavender Hill, Battersea, the residence of his father, Mr. George Henry Spicer.—The complainant said that on Friday evening he heard a loud knocking at his door, and on looking he saw the prisoner, who had placed a note in the letter-box, addressed to his mother, asking for money. He opened the door, and the prisoner again knocked at the door, and this time asked witness to lend him 5s. He told him that he had given him hundreds of pounds, and would not give any more. He afterwards broke the glass panels in the street door with his stick. Witness had assisted his son in every possible way, but he had subjected himself as a citizen, and he was not felt constrained to take the proceedings.—The prisoner, who appeared to be a man of education, said he very much regretted the circumstance. If he had been in his proper frame of mind he would not have given his parents any trouble. Any punishment the magistrate might inflict would add to the remorse he felt.—Sergeant Clark said he was on the house, and the prisoner was on the doorstep the worse for drink, singing a comic song. There was a crowd of about 300 persons, and great disorder prevailed. The prisoner seized hold of his father by the head, and witness had to wrench him away.—Mr. Hopkins ordered the prisoner to find a surety for his good behaviour, or, in default, to go to prison for one month.

Greenwich.

ALLEGED SAVAGE ATTACK ON A WIFE.—Geo. Tomlinson, 20, of Hill-top, was charged with feloniously cutting and wounding his wife, Clara, on the head, supposed with a flat iron.—P.S. Rouse, 2 K, said that at 2.30 that morning he was at the Westcombe Park Police Station when the prisoner came in and said he had murdered his wife at home with an iron off a stove. Witness went to see, and found the corpse in the bedroom, and detained the prisoner. The prisoner was in so bad a condition that she had to be removed to the union infirmary. When the charge was read over to the prisoner the latter said, "Have I tried to murder my dear wife? He appeared very strange, and witness believed he had been in the prison one time, and he was out of his mind.—Inspector Hocking said he had just left the woman at the infirmary. Her injuries were on the head, and she was unconscious.—Mr. Marsham remanded the prisoner.

Croydon.

A STONE THROWING BY BOYS.—Walter Bowers, 13, of Bath-road, Mitcham, was summoned for throwing stones in a public thoroughfare at Mitcham.—P.C. 131 W.R. stated that on the 26th inst. he saw the defendant and a number of other boys stoning a man who was passing along the road. There were about a dozen boys engaged in the affair, and when the constable came down on them Bowers was the only one who succeeded in catching.—The boy denied the allegation, and called a young woman named Hannah, who was of Queen's-rail, Mitcham, who swore she saw all that occurred. She denied that the boys threw stones at all, and alleged that the constable severely cuffed the lad when he captured him.—The constable informed the magistrate that several complaints had been made against the boys of the district in question.—The magistrate said he was not sure against defendant and his brother only 4s. or two back.—The bench inflicted a fine of 7s. 6d., including costs.

INQUESTS.

TWO CHILDREN BURNED TO DEATH.—An inquest was held by Mr. Langham on the body of Matilda Sturgeon, aged 31 years, the daughter of the deceased, living at Ubridge-street, Newington Causeway, Sturgeon, the mother, stated that on Wednesday evening out on an errand, leaving deceased playing on the floor in front of the fire with the baby. She returned in about ten minutes, and

The deceased was seen clothing in flames. As quickly as possible the disfigurement was removed, and the child was shockingly burned, she took her Guy's Hospital, where she died soon after. When in the hospital the child admitted that she had been playing with the fire.—The house surgeon deposed that death occurred a few hours after admission from shock to the system.—The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

SAD DEATH OF A SCHOOLBOY.—Dr. E. Macdonald held an inquest respecting the death of Frederick Parish, 12, of a fatal death-renderer, of Nelson-road, . . .

—Charles Parish, the father, deposed that the deceased was the habit of trawling in the afternoon between Stoke Newington, and left home at 4.40 on Tuesday for that purpose.—Walter William Hunt, a porter on the Great Eastern Railway at Stoke Newington, deposed that about 4.33 p.m. he was standing on the platform when a train passed through. Witness noticed a third-class carriage door open, and the deceased clinging to the footboard, and by one man being pulled up at Beccy-road Station. Witness proceeded up the line and about forty yards from the station found the mutilated body of the lad lying on the line. His head was smashed, the brains exposed, and the right arm cut off.—H. Bullard, guard in charge of the train, which was an empty carriage, deposed that he did not see the deceased until he reached the station. He did not notice any one get into the train, neither did the porters or the rear guard. It was not the custom to lock the doors of empty carriage trains.—District-inspector William Elliott, deposed that the porters and guards would prevent any one getting into the train without notice.—The train leading to the platform was closed, but there was a subway open, and the deceased must have run up this and entered the carriage unnoticed.—The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

KILLED BY SAUSAGE.—Dr. Macdonald held an inquest concerning the death of Charles Gillham, aged 3, the son of a window cleaner, of Auckland-road, Bethnal Green.—Emma Gillham the mother, deposed that about two weeks ago the deceased fell off a sofa and broke his arm. He was an in-patient of the hospital for a month, and then seemed to recover his good health. On Tuesday the deceased had two beef sausages for his dinner, and afterwards he complained of pain in his head. Witness gave him some rhubarb and magnesia and he was sick. Later on he became worse, and the doctor called, but no remedy was shortly afterwards. Dr. Rich, of Eoman-road, stated that he found the child in a comatose condition, from which it never rallied. He believed death was due to syncope, caused by the exhaustion from vomiting, set up by irritation of the stomach from eating the sausages.—The jury returned a verdict accordingly.

ABSOLUTELY DESTITUTE.—Mr. W. E. Baxter held an inquest touching the death of a female maker, of Charles-street, Stepney.—Emily Fontins, the wife of a joiner, stated that the mother, who was 43 years of age, lodged in her house. On Tuesday afternoon the witness went to her room and found her leaning against the fireplace, apparently in great pain. Witness asked her what was the matter. The woman told her she was suffering from a tumour. Witness went downstairs to get her a cup of tea, and on her return saw a baby lying on the floor. Witness picked the baby up, and placed it on a chair, and her husband afterwards went to the police station, whence he was sent to the relieving officer, who summoned a doctor to attend. The baby went on all right till Thursday, when it was found dead in bed. The mother was absolutely destitute.—Dr. Alexander stated that he was called to see the woman on a parish order. She was perfectly destitute and had no clothing for herself or the child except some things which the neighbours had kindly given her. The child was very ill. Witness sent blankets, sheets, and clothing for the woman, and warned her not to overlay the child. The cause of death, in his opinion, was injury to the brain due to the fall at birth.—The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical testimony, adding that death was due to accidental causes.

A HUSBAND CENSURED.—Dr. G. Danford Thomas held an inquest respecting the death of Mary McClure, Harvest-road, Hornsey-road.—Albert Chesterfield, the husband, stated that his wife was delicate and had suffered from consumption of the throat for years. He had been out of employment for many months, and had not been able to get her proper nourishment. She had wasted considerably. For several days before she died she was ill, and died on Tuesday.—Catherine Bulman, deceased's mother, said her daughter had been "slowly starved." Her son-in-law drank, and had done so now for five years. The witness had given up her small income to provide nourishment and food for her daughter and five children, but the money had not adequately supplied their needs. The mother deposed that the home had been wrecked through habitual intoxication. He had sent money to the family for the sake of the wife and children, but he believed the money had never been put to their benefit. Only this week he had sent £5 for the burial of deceased, and £1 of it had been spent the same evening by his brother in the public house. He never knew the true condition she was placed in.—Dr. Styles, of Hornsey Rise, deposed that he found the deceased in a very emaciated condition. He had made a post mortem examination which showed both lungs in an advanced state of phthisis. Want of proper nourishment would greatly accelerate the progress of disease, and lead to the following consumption of the throat and lungs.—The husband asked why he had not tried to obtain employment to keep his

"He had an appointment in the winter of 1890, in Algiers. He was there seven weeks, and came home invalided. He died once been kept by his mother-in-law. The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter. With the medical evidence adding a rider to the effect that the deceased was deserving of no punishment for not supplying proper medical care, food, and nourishment, and further that this was due to his habits of intemperance.

THE POLICE AND THE PUBLIC.

At the West London Police Court on the 6th inst., Mr. Curtis Bennett charged against Frederick Leith conductor, living at P.O. 256 F for disorderly conduct in High-street, Notting Hill, shortly after midnight on March 4th. In consequence of the prisoner's denial of the charge and an allegation of the unnecessary interference of the constable, the magistrate granted a remand or him to call witnesses to substantiate it. It was stated by one of the prisoners that he was playing billiards at the Prince Albert public-house. He stood outside talking quietly to his friends, when the constable came up and told them to "shift on." The prisoner walked into the road followed by the constable, who bumped the prisoner in the back with his knee. One of the young men, Frederick Maguire, a clerk, expostulated and suggested to the prisoners to tell the magistrates' number. They reported him at the station. The constable then took the prisoner to the station and wished to add drunkenness to the charge, but the inspector on duty refused to take it.—William Saxon, an engineer, living in Camden-street, said he was in the prisoner's company. They had been in the Anchor institution and afterwards in the public-house at the Prince Albert where the prisoner played at billiards. They left the public-house at half-past 12, and stood at the corner of Devonshire-terrace, there being four of the party. After the constable told them to shift away they walked into the road and made arrangements for a football match. He bade his friend go to bed and stay all night. When they were out of sight, however, there was no disturbance, and he was surprised to hear of the charge.—Mr. Curtis Bennett: Why did the constable tell you to go on?—Witness: I can't say; we were not talking loudly.—The person who acted as marker on the occasion proved that none of the party had any drink in the billiard-room, and that there was not any disturbance when they were out of sight.—Ernest William Rutland, the son of a chessmonger, of High-street, Notting Hill, for whose attendance the case had been put back until the afternoon, said he went out at half-past 12 to post some letters. At that time he noticed that the whole street was deserted, with the exception of two persons, who were standing in the middle of the wide sidewalks at the corner. As he went to the pillar-box one of the constables (256) went towards the men in the road. The constable pushed Leith, which appeared to irritate him, and he heard him say, "Follow me to Dartmouth-street, where I live." Prisoner walked away, apparently going home. When about a couple of yards away from the constable he turned round, and seeing the constable pushing it with force into the prisoner's back. The prisoner seemed surprised and said, "What are you doing? I want your number." He looked for the number and the constable said, "This is my number," and pushed him. Maguire called out, "Fred, come to the station and report him." The constable pushed the prisoner again, and they were standing in the middle of the sidewalk. The witness expressed that there was no disturbance except that which was made by the constable.—Mr. Curtis Bennett thought the witnesses had spoken truthfully, and ordered the prisoner to be discharged, at the same time expressing an opinion that the constable had exceeded his duty and had wrongfully taken Leith into custody. He asked the witnesses would be referred to the chief commissioner.

SIR F. DE WINTON ON CENTRAL AFRICA.

Sir F. de Winton delivered a very interesting lecture last evening at Working Men's College on the 12th on "Central Africa." Sir Francis said that fifty years ago Central Africa was a blank space, but discoveries had followed each other so rapidly, that its history was like a fairy-tale. From our present knowledge it was plain that Central Africa had no historical records of its own, except those which could be given to travellers by the oldest inhabitants. There were evidences, facts, and ruins to indicate that it had ever been inhabited other than by the people who now lived there. In no early map was the true shape of Africa given, and the first which gave the most correct shape was that by Mercator, in 1531. Turning to the geographical characteristics, he declared that the Zambesi, as a navigable river, had many disadvantages. Its course was that of the bar at the mouth of the river, which could not be wholly removed, owing to the Portuguese jealousy as to the right of navigation. The lakes were also of the greatest importance because if they were connected with the rivers it would enable the tribes to be brought nearer to civilization. But it was known that they represented four divisions. They had a great liking for trade, and could be easily governed. He insisted that the cultivation of commercial relations with Central Africa was of the greatest importance to the trade of this country.

A BOARD SCHOOL TEACHER'S ACTION FOR FALSE IMPRISONMENT

On the 12th, in the Queen's Bench Division before Justice Dorman and a common jury the hearing of the action, M^r. Sheehy v. Race, was resumed. The action was brought by a board school teacher, who sought to recover damages from the defendant, a sergeant of police, for false imprisonment. The plaintiff had also commenced a similar action against the police constable who took him into custody.—The plaintiff, in April of last year, was given into custody by a Mrs. Lloyd, and charged with having committed an assault upon her son. He had 8 years of age, who was a pupil at the plaintiff's school. The plaintiff was convicted of assaulting the child. The plaintiff's case was that inasmuch as the offence with which he was charged did not justify his arrest without warrant, the action of the defendant in keeping him in custody was ultra vires.—After hearing a good deal of evidence, his lordship directed judgment to be entered for both defendants, with costs.

THE POLICE AND THE DOGS.

The police have reported that during the past month they had seized 1,860 strays in the streets of London, and of that number had conveyed 1,354 to the Home Batteries. None of the animals were found to be suffering from rabies, and only two came under the notice of the police, however, that, during the above period twenty-five persons, including three constables, were bitten by dogs in London.

In Conversation, loss of vitality, sprains, strengthening digestive system, Emulsion supplies the greater with a large amount of the special instruction required with respect to the treatment of the patient. Report.—Tried in thirty cases. Emulsion improves appetite, promotes digestion, and causes general improvement in health. No harm done by liver oil cannot. The emulsion is the consistency of heavy cream, easily assimilable with milk, tea, coffee, &c. Sold everywhere. Price 1/- per bottle. Write for leaflet and sample. Address—J. H. GARDNER & CO., Ltd., 10, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4.

[Advertisement]

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"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

There were 2,310 births and 1,808 deaths registered in London last week.

There were nine cases of suicide last week in the metropolis.

Nine deaths in London last week were caused by violence in the public streets.

Thirty deaths in the metropolis last week were primarily attributed to influenza.

Fourteen London infants under a year old were last week suffocated in bed.

Sixty-two deaths in London last week were attributable to accident or negligence.

London consumed during February an average 180,125,530 gallons of water a day.

London received daily from the Thames, during February, 90,740,666 gallons of water.

Opium was smuggled from Mexico to San Francisco recently in a coffin containing the corpse of a man.

The French Senate has adopted the bill regulating the telephonic service between Great Britain and France.

A man has been arrested at Pileas for smuggling into the town a large parcel of anarchist pamphlets.

During a drunken quarrel among Slaves at Uniontown, Pennsylvania, George Haas was stabbed and killed by Joseph Cachi.

Five newspapers have been sequestered in Rome for having given a report of the proceedings at a Republican meeting.

Lord Rosebery now describes Lord Randolph Churchill as "one of the greatest moralists of the age."

The Paris Municipal Council has voted a grant of 5,000 francs for the relief of the sufferers by the terrible colliery explosion at the Andrieux Pit, near Mons.

A severe earthquake shock, lasting twelve seconds, was felt on Sunday morning at Napa, California. The direction of the vibration was from north to south.

Mr. Melton Prior and Mr. Vincent Harrison had a narrow escape of being shot during the recent electrifying riots in Buenos Ayres.

Mr. Seligman is in Rome, discrediting the stories of the Pope's ill-health, and declares that, so far as he can judge, he bears his 83 years fairly well.

Charles Kepple, a boy of 11, committed suicide near Freeport, Philadelphia, by hanging himself in his father's barn, because his father had reproved him.

Walter Anderson, an attorney of Brady, Texas, was shot dead by an unknown assassin, while holding his baby in his arms. The shot was fired through a window.

Bridget McEwan, residing at George-street, Glasgow, was frightfully burned about the body through the upsetting of a paraffin lamp. She died shortly after.

The Artists' Corps now number 804, as against 738 in 1890, and during its thirty years' existence upwards of 4,000 men have passed through the regiment.

The Emperor of China's English studies advance rapidly, much to the disgust of the conservative court officials opposed to western ideas. His Majesty is also learning French.

After having lived happily together for more than thirty years, a New York wife, aged 50 years, applied for and secured a divorce from her husband, aged 70 years.

During a row at an election at Fayette Corner, Hardemann county, Tennessee, Thomas Rogers was shot and killed, and his father was dangerously wounded, by Samuel Munter.

A duel with swords took place in the vicinity of Paris the other morning between M. Isaac, formerly subprefect of Avesnes, and the Marquis de Mores. The former was slightly wounded in the chest.

Carlyle called on Blackie at a moment when an agitation was proceeding in favour of better food for convicts. "Fur fellows! fur fellows!" he said, "give them brown soup and a footstool, and kick them to the devil."

In giving evidence before the Labour Commission, Mr. McGregory, secretary of the Glasgow Master Masons' Association, expressed himself in favour of the universal adoption of boards of conciliation and arbitration for the settlement of trade disputes.

Dict Cullen, who was charged with the murder of a 4-year-old child, was taken from the gaol at Marshfield, Missouri, and lynched by a mob. When asked by the mob as to his guilt, he replied by telling them with an oath to "pull your rope."

Princess Louise has been ordered riding exercises for the sake of her health, which has not been wholly satisfactory of late, and she now takes a canter every morning in the large riding school attached to the royal stables at Buckingham Palace.

A farmer in Hertfordshire, named Vise, being desirous of removing 104 sheep into Essex, obtained the necessary order from the authorities of that county. But the sheep had to pass through Milborne, for which county Mr. Vise did not obtain an order. For this omission he was summoned before the magistrates at Ilkleygate and fined 4s.

Mr. Sobag Montefiore presided at the annual general meeting of the South-west Bethnal Green Conservative Association, held at the Abbey-street Schools. He introduced Mr. Benakin, the new candidate, to the meeting, and said he felt sure that gentlemen would do all he could for the Conservative party in the neighbourhood.

Another of the men supposed to have been concerned in stealing 12,400 worth of Indian stamps from the steamship *Astrea*, in June, a storekeeper's labourer, named Ampan, was taken before the magistrate at Bow-street. One Aston was convicted of the theft in December, and it was from information afforded by him that Ampan was apprehended. The prisoner was remanded.

At the Central Criminal Court, three men, named Jeffery, Benjamin, and Barry, were indicted for forging and uttering stamps, and for conspiring to defraud. The evidence showed that the prisoners had been engaged in the manufacture or alteration of postage stamps to give them a fictitious value. Benjamin and Jeffery were sentenced to six and Barry to four months' imprisonment.

One not altogether unexpected result in London of the crisis in the coal trade has been the effect it has had upon the quality of the gas used in the metropolis. The gas is well known, in tested by the officers of the London County Council, and last week's testings show that in the case of two of the gas companies the illuminating power was below the proper standard on eleven occasions.

Mr. Gouchen, at a Unionist meeting at Holloway, alluding to a statement that the Government intended to appeal to the country upon the success of their financial and Irish policy, said they would do so upon their performances in general. He claimed that the alliance between the two sections of the Unionist party had grown stronger every year, and he believed that in the end it would succeed.

"One day," says Mrs. Blackie, "I went to call on Mrs. Carlyle. It was in the afternoon of a very, very hot day. I was just saying good-bye when it suddenly occurred to me to ask—'Is the great man?' Mrs. Carlyle said: 'The great man?'"

"May I see the great man?" Mrs. Carlyle said: "The great man? The great man?"

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to his knees, sat Carlyle on a chair, with his feet and legs in a great tub of cold water!"

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley are now on their way to England.

An unknown woman entered a room in a public-house in Cowgate, Edinburgh, and almost immediately expired.

From Quito it is reported that the German consul in that city has been mobbed by a crowd, and was with difficulty rescued.

Two officers of high rank in the account-general's department in Paris have been arrested on the charge of having committed heavy frauds on the State.

Four hundred and fifty-four deaths last week in the metropolis were referred by the medical men to diseases of the respiratory organs.

The reports which have been circulated as to the failure of Sir William Harcourt's eyesight are once more authoritatively declared to be entirely without foundation.

There were 54 deaths from measles in London last week, four from fever, 84 from diphtheria, 69 from whooping-cough, 5 from enteric fever, and 20 from diarrhoea and dysentery.

Yphus fever is devastating the town of Yuma, Mexico, no less than 230 deaths having occurred within the past few days. The hospitals are filled with patients suffering from the disease.

The Lord Mayor presided at the anniversary festival of the City of London General Pension Society, held at the Hotel Metropole, when £260 was subscribed in aid of the charity.

Granny Morley, the well-known centenarian of Ham, Surrey, died on Tuesday at the age of 105. She had lived at Ham nearly all her life, and was confined to her bed for a comparatively short time, and retained her mental faculties to the last.

At Oldham, a man named Lally was sentenced to two months' hard labour for having brutally assaulted his four-year-old son. The evidence showed that the child was subjected to systematic ill-treatment by its father.

Michael Niland was shot dead by Edward Footbill near Rockwood, Pennsylvania, in a quarrel as to whose duty it was to attend to a coal shovelling. Niland, however, threatened Footbill with a coal pick before the fatal shot was fired.

Mr. Jesse Collings intends to ask the House of Commons to provide for the teaching of practical agriculture in public elementary schools. He advises that in rural districts small gardens should be attached to the schools for the purpose of actual training.

John Calvin, a Methodist preacher in Green county, Alabama, shot and killed William Herdy, a deacon of the church, and fatally injured David Smith, brother-in-law of Herdy. Herdy, who was jealous of Calvin, attacked him with a cane, when Calvin drew a pistol and fired five shots.

Sir Charles Tupper's recent remarks in London, threatening, on behalf of Canada, to retaliate on the United States in respect of the McKinley tariff, have not endeared the leading members of the Dominion Cabinet, who think any responsibility in connection with them.

Charles W. Ayres, a prominent business man of Detroit, Michigan, was shot and fatally injured by his wife, Anna D. Ayres, at their residence. Mr. Ayres's application for a divorce had been refused, and Ayres was in the house preparing to remove his personal effects when the crime was committed.

Recent kidnappings in America have created a bit of a scare. No intention to this effect has emanated from the "swart singer" himself, but it is positively asserted that he was seen to enter a hairdressing saloon and order a hair-cut.

Milk in Siberia is sold in a frozen state. This must be awkward for the man who trades in the "milky way," for he must proceed with the adulterating part of the performance while the milk is yet warm.

Alfred H. H. Taylor, one of the three working men members of the aldermanic bench of the County Council, has been guaranteed a weekly allowance of not less than £3 by the Operative Bricklayers' Society, of which he is secretary. He will, therefore, devote his whole time to the business of the council.

In a petition which some Arab landowners have presented to the authorities at Zanibar praying for a reduction of the clove tax, inquiries were made to the Sultan. In addition to Mr. Portal suppressing this document, he insisted upon the petitioners apologising for the offensive remarks contained in it.

The village of Anderleux is being besieged by visitors from all parts of Belgium, attracted to the scene of the terrible collision between the two trains, the most sympathetic interest in the sorrowful sights they witness. On every hand the lamentations are heartrending. Subscription lists have been opened in aid of the sufferers.

Mr. Justice Lawrence, replying to a congratulatory address presented by the Leicester Law Society, at Leicester Assizes, said great changes were talked about in legal procedure, but he did not believe in the provincial business in London. He hoped that solicitors would have their interests represented before the committee of judges, so as to retain the privilege of having causes tried in the counties in which the parties lived, and in which the disputation arose.

The receipts on account of revenue from the lot of April, 1891, when there was a balance of £8,370,897 to March 12th, 1892, were £28,324,804, against £25,442,042 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £23,220,261. The net expenditure was £28,079,419, against £20,373,449 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on March 12th, 1892, amounted to £27,568,657, and at the same date in 1891 to £29,349,771.

In Prussia, as in Russia, from which the former has drawn her Parliamentary institutions, the Ministry will resign only when the Emperor invites it to do so; and if Parliament does not, on the whole, square its views with those of ministers, then Parliament is sent about its business, and the country is left to elect a new one, to be dissolved in like manner if it also should prove obstreperous, the administration in the meantime being carried on and the taxes raised by imperial ordinances.

Now the honest and useful humble bee is the subject of aspersions in New Zealand. He was sent there a few years back to fertilise red clover, for which business he was supposed to have taken out a patent. The scientific writer in the colony declares that the humble bee does not appear to hibernates there at all, but are to be seen on flowers all the year round, so that he fears they may become as great a nuisance to aspirants as rabbits are to farmers, on account of their

appropriating so much of the nectar of flowers.

Mr. Ashmead Bartlett is to be chairman of the committee on Greenwich Penions.

Lines given are evidently to be extensively used in ladies' millinery for the spring.

The Lord Chancellor has undertaken to open a Conservative club in South Bristol in the course of the Easter holidays.

A serious fire has occurred at Manilla, by which seven houses were destroyed and five persons injured.

A deacon "prince" who headed a revolt in a Burmese prison has been sentenced to death, together with five of his followers.

Two military prisoners at Koenigsberg made a daring attempt to escape. They attacked their escort, and in the ensuing struggle one of the men was shot dead.

An order has been published at Zanibar exempting from duty all imports and exports destined for the sole use of missions in the Sultan of Zanibar's territories.

A large number of mad dogs are being destroyed in county Armagh. The barriers of the Hunt Club have become infected, and six of them were destroyed.

Nine men, among whom was an engraver, have been arrested at Barcelona for having manufactured false notes of the Bank of France.

Steamers touching at Brazilian ports are now constantly bringing cases of yellow fever. The violence of the epidemic in Brazilian ports is increasing.

The sale of Irish work for the benefit of the Irish Industries Association has been fixed for Thursday and Friday, at Londonderry House, London.

Sir Lyon Playfair will deliver his inaugural address as president of the Leeds branch of the Imperial Federation League on the 1st of April.

Advices received in San Francisco from Japan state that the press censorship bureau of the Government has suppressed thirty newspapers for articles deemed inimical to the general good.

It is in contemplation to form a company of mounted infantry in connection with the companies already formed by the Queen's Westminster and Inns of Court Volunteers.

The Hon. John Collier is painting a portrait of Miss Julia Neilson, which will be seen at one of the spring exhibitions, as well as of the Bishop of Worcester, Sir Stuart Bayley, and others.

While an engine-driver named Fenton was leaning over the engine at a Sheffield railway works, his shirt was caught by the crank pin, and he was dragged into the machinery and completely crushed.

At Willenhall, Henry Vaughan, a London and North-Western Railway porter, was fined £10 and costs for embezzling various sums of money received by him for excess fares. £40 was found in his box at home.

A woman named Ann Gill, who died recently at Northborough, near Bradford, confessed on her death-bed that in October, 1871, she poisoned her husband. The motive of the crime, it is stated, was her attachment to a man whom she wanted to marry.

Mr. Irving has been for some time planning, and has now completed, a system of warming the Lyceum with hot-water pipes. It extends not only to the stalls, dress circle, and boxes, but also to the stage, pit, the gallery, and the corridors throughout the theatre.

John Close, colliery clerk, aged 43, has been sentenced at Durham Assizes to 18 months' penal servitude for embezzlement at Consett. Ironworks. The defalcations exceeded £2,000 and extended over eleven years.

The greatest theatre-goers in the House of Commons are Mr. T. H. Bolton, Mr. Dixon Hartland, and Mr. Woodall, and these gentlemen have been nominated to serve on the select committee on theatres and variety houses.

A woman named Soden attempted to murder her husband at Gainsborough. The parties, who are husband and wife, having an altercation, both being the worse for drink, Mrs. Soden snatched a table-knife from a basket and plunged it into her husband's throat.

The bankruptcy department of the Board of Trade stands almost alone in respect of the trifling demand it makes upon the public purse. Last year all the House of Commons was asked to vote on its account was a sum of £14. For the new financial year a vote of £12 will suffice.

A wedding party assembled around the altar in Crookcaneby Church, but, as the license had been forgotten, the ceremony was postponed. This created quite a scene in the church, and the poor bride had to be assisted out of the edifice. The parties were married all right next day.

Inspector Edward Borne, late chief of the detective department of the B Division (Chelsea and Pimlico district) of police, in consequence of failing eyesight (through an injury inflicted while arresting a desperate character some years ago), has, after two and a half years' service, been put on a full pension of £106 12s. per annum.

Philipa Fay, of Sutton, got three weeks' imprisonment at Epsom for ill-treating her child Alice. The child's back was covered with bruises from the neck downwards; both arms were badly bruised. She was not well clothed, and fearfully dirty. Defendant said that she beat Alice with a piece of paramburgh tyre.

The question whether limited liability company law should be issued shares at discount has been decided by the final Court of Appeal. In the case of the Ouregum Gold Mining Company, Mr. Justice Chitty had held that it was not prohibited by law from doing so; but his judgment was overruled by the Court of Appeal, whose decision was affirmed by the House of Lords.

A meeting was being held in a hall in Francis-street, Dublin, in support of the Fenian League candidates for seats on the board of the South Dublin Union, when the floor suddenly collapsed, precipitating nearly all present into a cellar underneath. Many persons were injured, several very seriously. The sufferers were taken for treatment to the Meath Hospital.

Several firemen belonging to the royal mail steamer *Atrato* were summoned to the Southampton Police Court for combining to disobey the orders of the captain. The men, on the day of the steamer putting to sea last January, refused to go on board, on the ground that a negro had been engaged instead of an Englishman. To ensure the vessel sailing the captain had to pay off the negro. The defendants were each fined 20s.

The Portsmouth Town Council has unanimously resolved to memorialise the Treasury in favour of independent audits of the board of the South Hampshire Waterworks, and similar organisations throughout the country, with a view to preventing such disastrous consequences as were caused by the failure of the Portsmouth Island Building Society, and for the purpose of encouraging thrift by giving some guarantee of the stability of such institutions.

Charles Goldsmith was charged at Bow-street with having shot Mary Ann Bignall with intent to murder her. The prosecutrix, a widow, was in the prisoner's house and occupied room in the prisoner's house and on the 12th inst., while she was taking some pictures off a wall, she heard the prisoner say that he was going to clean a revolver. Immediately afterwards she heard a report, and found that she had been shot in the arm. The

magistrate, believing the affair to be accidental, discharged the prisoner.

The shirt dancer's skirts may come high, but she must have them.

So the influenza is raging at Wady Halfa. Probably we shall have Osman Digma dying again now.

It is quite erroneous to suppose that nigger minstrels blacken their hands and faces with concert pitch.

It is suggested that the leap year girl should bait him delicately with a little popcorn.

It is not until one gets above the cloud that the silver lining comes within the line of vision.

In its financial means, Judy remarks that the best thing for the bulls to do is to "bear up."

The Queen has approved of Gen. Lord Roberts, V.C., retaining command of the Army in India till March 31st, 1893.

Berry, as a lecturer, must resemble the temperance advocate in no small degree. Both discourse about the man who has had a drop too much.

Turks, it is said, are really very susceptible men—acutely sensitive to a snub or slight. After all, any fool can sit on an Ottoman with the greatest ease.

Turtles are said to live from 150 to 200 years, but they have to secure apartments of thousands of miles from the Mansion House in order to manage it.

According to the Hawk, one of the audience last week at a Hartlepool music-hall was ejected for singing "Ta-ra-boom-de-ay." They are more advanced up north.

The Queen has approved of the appointment of Mr. H. D. Greene, Q.C., as recorder of Ludlow, Salop, in succession to the late Mr. J. K. Smythies.

At Durham Assizes, Mr. Justice Grantham ordered two youths named Ramsay and Owens to receive twenty-four lashes each for robbery with violence at Sunderland.

Mrs. James-Miller says Boston is not only the "Hub of the Universe," but also the centre of the dress reform cult. But the "bobbies" who inhabit the "Hub" refute the soft impeachment.

It is stated that Berry has assisted 183 persons to shuffle off this mortal coil. In each case the coil has a noose at the end of it, and the shuffle practically resolved itself into a "cellar-dip."

The Kensington magistrates have granted the necessary license for the Horticultural Exhibition at Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, which are to open at Earl's Court on the 7th of May.

The steamship *Missouri* has sailed from New York for Lihau with a cargo of 3,000 tons of flour and Indian corn and meal for the starving Russian peasants. She will first call at an English port to land a consignment of cattle.

Mr. Lockwood, Q.C., is one of the very few lawyers who can claim to have been an actor before going to the bar—the legal bar. There is another bar at which actors and theatrical artists extensively practice, but that too often proves a bar sinister.

One of the ladies' societies of Boston recently sent a big box of gowns to the plain unvarnished bellies of the Upper Congo station. In the fulness of time there came the ambiguous acknowledgment: "Plenty dressing; send more missionaries."

Mr. William Salmon, of

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and you will obtain certain
 MEDICAL OPINIONS MEDICINES
 and Ointments, and are told
 you may have tried Pills,
 Ointments, and other Remedies
 THOUSANDS of Famined
 with Rheumatism, and DOCTORS
 have said, "There is no
 REMEDY of the Age." Perfect
 Cures are guaranteed by this Al-
 ternative for Price List and Copies
 are guaranteed genuine and
 sent to inspection and satisfac-
 tion.
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 USED BY THOUSANDS.
 REWARD OF MERIT IS
 OF POPULARITY.
 NEWSTOWN. (Stat. N.E.L.)
 Stationers' Hall.)
 A COMPANY'S
 MEDICAL REMEDIES.
 1.—Sure Cure for Consumption,
 Coughs, Pharyngitis, and all Throat
 Diseases.
 2.—Cures all Watting Diseases,
 Cuts, Lebbity Brains, &c.
 3.—Indigestion, Constipation, and
 all several Disorders.
 4.—Cures Coughs, Pleurisy, Heart
 all Kidney and Heart Troubles.
 5.—Cures all Rheumatism.
 6.—A Balm to Athletes.
 7.—A Tincture.
 8.—A Linctus for Coughs, Cuts,
 Rheumatism, Sore Throat, &c.
 9.—A Linctus for Coughs, Cuts,
 Rheumatism, Sore Throat, &c.
 10.—A Linctus for Coughs, Cuts,
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 31.—A Linctus for Coughs, Cuts,
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 32.—A Linctus for Coughs, Cuts,
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 33.—A Linctus for Coughs, Cuts,
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 34.—A Linctus for Coughs, Cuts,
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 35.—A Linctus for Coughs, Cuts,
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 36.—A Linctus for Coughs, Cuts,
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 37.—A Linctus for Coughs, Cuts,
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 38.—A Linctus for Coughs, Cuts,
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